



Summer
Newsletter
2019

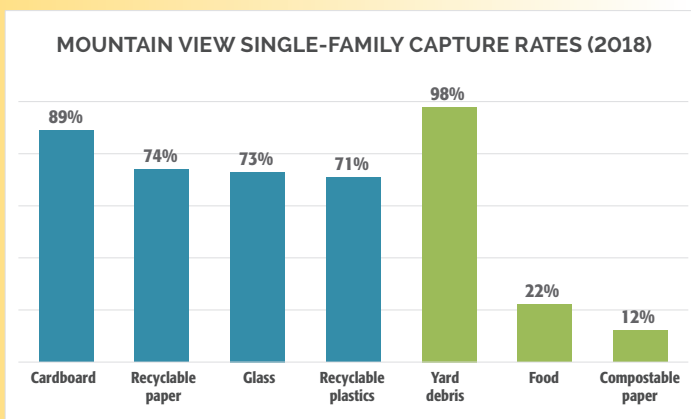
MOUNTAIN VIEW RECYCLING resource

ZERO WASTE BY 2030

Following the adoption of the Zero Waste Policy in 2018, the City Council reviewed in June a draft Zero Waste Plan outlining actions the City can take to reach the goal of 90 percent diversion by 2030. A Waste Characterization study was conducted prior to developing the plan to examine the types of materials being disposed in Mountain View. The information from this study helps us understand how effective our programs are at keeping recyclable and organic materials out of the trash.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

For the single-family residential sector, the study determined "capture rates," which show how much of a material type is put in the correct container. The results indicate single-family residents are doing a pretty good job sorting materials correctly, with a total capture rate of 75% of recyclable materials and 64% of compostable materials. The bar graph below shows the percentage of each material that was correctly put in the recycling (blue bars) or compost (green bars) cart.



WHAT CAN WE DO BETTER?

Make sure you include the food! Residents subscribed to curbside service can put food scraps in the compost cart. The study found that less than 25% of discarded food made it into the compost cart, and 46% of the materials thrown away in the trash carts were compostable—food, food-soiled paper and yard trimmings. All of these materials can go in the compost cart. In addition to helping reach the diversion goal, composting food scraps reduces landfill methane emissions and gives these valuable resources a second useful life as compost for landscape growers. If you are subscribed to curbside service and don't have a compost cart, contact Recology to request service and a kitchen pail kit (above).



WHAT ITEMS ARE FOOD SCRAPS?

- **ALL FOOD:** fruit, vegetables, breads, cereal, dairy, meat (including bones); coffee grounds, filters and tea bags; shells, peels and pits.
- **FOOD-SOILED PAPER:** paper towels (even if they are just wet and not food-soiled), paper plates, napkins, pizza boxes and paper lunch bags.

Ensuring that all organic waste is properly composted is one of the important actions identified in the Zero Waste Plan to work towards 90 percent diversion. To read the draft Plan and view the full Waste Characterization study results, visit mountainview.gov/ZeroWaste.

Household
Hazardous
Waste Event
Information
Inside!

Edible Food Rescue

Composting food scraps is not the only way to keep food out of the landfill. Edible food is a valuable resource, and there are many Santa Clara County residents in need of nutritious meals. Joint Venture Silicon Valley is tackling the issue of food waste and hunger with a new mobile food distribution system called A La Carte to rescue edible food and distribute to those in need. This is not your average food cart. The trucks will drive around the region collecting surplus prepared and packaged food from corporate and university campuses and then deliver the food directly to food insecure communities. Neighbors in need can visit the truck and receive food for free. Since commencing operations in September 2018, A La Carte has collected and redistributed over 170,000 pounds of food equaling more than 140,000 meals.

Food has been distributed to locations around the County, including elementary schools in Sunnyvale, low-income housing projects in Mountain View, and organizations in East Palo Alto. A La Carte plans to expand to more areas throughout the county. Learn more at jointventure.org/initiatives/silicon-valley-food-rescue.



Go Zero Waste at Your Summer BBQ

Summer BBQ season is here! It's a great time to throw a cookout, without throwing away unnecessary trash. Follow these tips to go zero waste at your BBQs this summer.



Avoid single-use beverage containers by making your own favorite drink in a pitcher/drink dispenser. Got leftover fruit from your food preparations? Serve water infused with berries or citrus for a refreshing drink option.

- Use real plates, cutlery, cups, and cloth napkins that you can wash and use again. If you do use disposable items, choose paper products rather than plastic. Paper plates, cups, and napkins—including those with color or prints—can go in your compost cart (but no plastics, even compostable plastic).
- Don't let any of your delicious food go to waste! Plan accordingly for the number of people attending, and have reusable containers to pack away leftovers to enjoy later or send home with your guests.
- Provide clearly marked separate containers for recycling, compost, and trash to easily sort items and make sure they get in the right cart when you're cleaning up. You can download and print event signs for your containers at mountainview.gov/whatgoeswhere.



Use cloth napkins



Invest in reusable tools, such as metal skewers and glass or metal serving platters, so you can use them all summer long.

Summer Cleaning

Taking time this summer to declutter? Here are some guidelines to help manage your summer cleaning.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Hazardous waste, e-waste, and universal wastes cannot be disposed in the trash because they are harmful to the environment. Items like paint, fluorescent bulbs, batteries, garden chemicals such as herbicides and insecticides, pool chemicals, and propane canisters/tanks can be dropped off at an HHW event (appointment only, information about the next Mountain View event below) or at specific take-back locations that you can find at hhw.org.

New!

Residents can now drop off *empty* one pound **single-use propane cylinders** at the SMaRT Station as part of a new pilot program. Never dispose of propane cylinders in the trash or recycling. They are a fire hazard and could explode if crushed in the sorting process. Residents can bring up to 3 cylinders for drop off per visit during normal SMaRT station operating hours (M–F, 8am–5pm).



LARGE HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Do you want to get rid of a large item that does not fit in your garbage cart? If the item can be reused, try posting it for free on websites like Freecycle.org, Restore.habitatbsv.org, or Nextdoor.com to see if anyone wants to take it off your hands. Otherwise, eligible residents can schedule an On Call Plus Clean Up with Recology at (650) 967-3034 to have extra trash and bulky goods picked up. Eligible residents may schedule three free cleanups per year and can set out up to three bulky items next to their trash cart at each appointment. Apartments can arrange a fee service cleanup with Recology.

Remember me? Together, we can do great things.



REMEMBER YOUR CUP

By replacing one disposable cup a day for a year with a reusable cup or mug, you can save:

281 GALLONS OF WATER

16 LBS OF GARBAGE

23 LBS OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

A WHOLE TREE



Recycling & Waste Reduction Commission of Santa Clara County

ReduceWaste.org/cup

PAPER SHREDDING EVENT

Saturday, November 2

8 am–12 pm

SMaRT Station

301 Carl Road, Sunnyvale

Limit 5 bags or boxes.

Late arrivals may not be served if trucks are full.

Questions? (408) 752-8530



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP OFF EVENT

In Mountain View

Saturday, August 10

By Appointment Only

Visit hhw.org or call

(408) 299-7300 to make an appointment and obtain a list of accepted items.



COMPOST BASICS WORKSHOP

Saturday, October 26

10 am–12 pm

Senior Center, 266 Escuela Avenue

Multi-Purpose Room A

Attend a free workshop and learn the basics of backyard and worm composting.

Backyard compost bins available for purchase. Other workshop dates and locations available.

Registration required at ucanr.edu/compost or (408) 918-4640.





CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
RECYCLING + ZERO WASTE
500 CASTRO STREET
MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA 94043

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. Postage
PAID
Mountain View, CA
Permit No. 179

***** ECRWSSDDM *****
POSTAL CUSTOMER

Garbage and Recycling Collection Services

Recology Mountain View

(650) 967-3034

RecologyMountainView.com

- Missed pickups
- Service questions
- Clean up and bulky good collection services
- Business recycling
- Debris/Recycling boxes
- Recycling Center
- Larger or extra carts
- Cart Repairs

Utility and Garbage Billing

City Finance Department

(650) 903-6317

- Start, stop or change accounts
- Billing inquiries
- Extra garbage tags

Recycling and Zero Waste Program

Public Works Department

(650) 903-6311

MVrecycle.org

recycle@mountainview.gov

- Resource newsletter
- Recycling questions
- Event details



Holiday Collection Schedule

Collection schedules will be affected by the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year holidays. Holiday trees will be collected from December 26 through January 17 from homes with curbside cart collection. Multi-family property managers can arrange group tree collection with Recology. No On Call Plus Clean Up appointments will be available during this time. SmaRT Station vouchers to self-haul items will still be available. Call Recology at **(650) 967-3034** for information.

NOVEMBER 2019

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 25 Regular Collection | 26 Regular Collection | 27 Regular Collection | 28 No Collection Office Closed | 29 Thursday Customers Collected Office Closed | 30 Friday Customers Collected Office Closed |

DECEMBER 2019

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| 23 Regular Collection | 24 Regular Collection | 25 No Collection Office Closed | 26 Wednesday Customers Collected | 27 Thursday Customers Collected | 28 Friday Customers Collected Office Closed |

DECEMBER 2019–JANUARY 2020

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|--|--|
| 30 Regular Collection | 31 Regular Collection | 1 No Collection Office Closed | 2 Wednesday Customers Collected | 3 Thursday Customers Collected | 4 Friday Customers Collected Office Closed |